

Lakeland Joint School District No. 272

STUDENTS

Mental Health Providers

3501

POLICY STATEMENT:

The Lakeland Joint School District (“LJSD”) recognizes the importance of the mental health and well-being of its students, staff, and families. The school district may collaborate with mental health providers for mental health services and support to students, staff, and families who may need it. The intention of a working relationship between LJSD and mental health providers is to facilitate effective communication and coordinated mental health services onsite for the betterment of the LJSD community. Mental health providers are not employees of the District and the services are not being offered and/or provided by the District directly but are merely available for direct consulting and/or counseling with third-party providers. The District assumes no liability or responsibility for services provided by mental health providers.

DEFINITIONS:

For the purpose of this policy, the following definitions apply:

Mental Health: The state of our emotional, psychological, and social well-being that affects how we think, feel, and act. It also helps determine how we handle stress, relate to others, and make good choices.

Mental Health Providers: Professionals (licensed professional counselors, licensed clinical professional counselors, licensed masters social workers, licensed clinical social workers, licensed psychologists, and licensed psychiatrists) who provide mental health services and are under contract with LJSD.

District Expectations:

- A. The District shall provide training and education to its staff on recognizing changes in a student's mental, emotional, physical health or well-being.
- B. The District shall maintain the confidentiality of student mental health records in accordance with applicable laws and regulations.
- C. The District may collaborate with mental health providers on the implementation of mental health services to meet the needs of students.
- D. The District shall provide information to parents and guardians about mental health resources available in the community.
- E. The District shall provide a mental health informational packet to the parent and/or guardian and shall document the transaction in the District’s Learning Management System.

- F. The District shall report to the Board on a quarterly basis and provide the following information:
- The number of individuals receiving mental health services from a mental health provider contracted with the District;
 - The number of students, by school and grade level, receiving mental health services from a mental health provider contracted with the District;
 - The number of families receiving mental health services from a mental health provider contracted with the District;
 - The number of individuals, students, and families requesting services from a mental health provider contracted with the District; and
 - The number of individuals, students, and families listed on a waiting list to receive services from a mental health provider contracted with the District.
- G. Based on the information provided, the District, in collaboration with the Board, shall evaluate the collaboration with mental health providers every six months and make adjustments as needed.

The collection of aggregate data is intended to provide the Board with unbiased information to weigh upon the annual evaluation of all mental health contracts. All student data shall maintain confidentiality in accordance with HIPAA and FERPA rules and regulations. *See LJSD student privacy policies.*

Mental Health Provider Requirements:

- A. All mental health providers shall follow all federal laws, state statutes, administrative codes, and licensure code of ethics.
- B. All mental health providers shall be fingerprinted by the District for a background check annually.
- C. All mental health providers shall maintain confidentiality in accordance with HIPAA and FERPA rules and regulations.
- D. All mental health providers shall adhere to all LJSD policies.
- E. All mental health providers shall require a Release of Information prior to sharing any individual, student, or family mental health information with the District.

The District reserves the right to remove any mental health provider who, in the opinion of the District, has violated any District policy, standard, procedure, applicable statute, has engaged in misconduct and/or does not otherwise meet the needs of the District.

IMPLEMENTATION:

The Superintendent shall establish administrative protocols to implement this policy, including procedures for collaboration with mental health officials, training and education for school staff, and maintaining the confidentiality of student mental health records.

PARENTAL RIGHTS:

Prior to services being provided to a student:

- 1) An in-person discussion with the parent, and/or student, and referring district staff to address concerns regarding a need for outside services;
- 2) A mental health informational packet regarding services will be provided to the parent and/or guardian, including:
 - a) Community Resources Document
 - b) LJSD Policy 2340
 - c) LJSD Policy 2345
 - d) LJSD Policy 3281
 - e) LJSD Policy 3501
 - f) PPRA (Protection of Pupil Rights Amendment)
 - g) HIPAA (Health Insurance Portability and Accountability Act)
 - h) FERPA (Family Educational Rights and Privacy Act)
 - i) Receipt of Mental Health Informational Packet - *This shall be returned to the student's school.*
 - j) Things to Consider with Mental Health Services at School
- 3) Parental signatures may be necessary for authorization for services forms;
- 4) Insurance forms may need to be completed for services to be received;
- 5) Applications may be required to be filled out for outside service providers; and
- 6) Parents have the right to meet and approve counselors prior to the commencement of counseling services.

Services shall not be provided until written authorization has been provided to a mental health professional by a parent or legal guardian.

Parental permission may be revoked at any time and for any reason without any negative consequences to the student, parent, or family receiving services.

Parents and/or legal guardians, and students who have reached the age of majority, may discontinue services at any time. If a minor child expresses a desire to discontinue services, this

shall be communicated to the parent or legal guardian within 24-hours by the mental health provider.

Cross Reference:

- 3275 Student Data Privacy and Security
- 2340 Controversial Issues
- 2345 Speakers in the Classroom and at School Functions
- 2345 F Parental Option Forms for Controversial Issues
- 3281 Gender Identity and Sexual Orientation
- 3501 Mental Health Policy
- 3295 Hazing, Harassment, Intimidation, Bullying, Cyberbullying

Legal References: I.C. § 33-6001 Parental Rights in Education

I.C. § 18-1506 Genital Mutilation of a Child-Exclusions-Penalties-Definitions

I.C. § 19-5307 Fines in Cases of Crimes of Violence

20 U.S.C. § 1232g, h; 34 C.F.R. Part 99 Family Education Rights and Privacy Act (FERPA)

34 CFR Part 98 Protection of Pupil Rights Amendment

Parent Resource [Things to Consider with Mental Health Services at School](#)

Policy History:

Adopted on: August 14, 2023

Revised on:

Reviewed on: